ANNEXURE NO. 28

[*Vide* Unstarred Question 2149, answered on the 10th August, 2000]

PROGRESS STATEMENT (AS ON 1-8-2000) IN RESPECT OF ITEMS COVERED UNDER AGENDA FOR SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN STATES AND SIKKIM ANNOUNCED BY PRIME MINISTER ON 22ND JANUARY, 2000 AT SHILLONG

Sl. No.	Item	Amount/ Source of funding	Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Provision of Rs. 500 crores for Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) for North East and Sikkim.	NABARD Rs 500 crores per annum.	Schemes for Rs. 712.93 crores have already been sanctioned till 31-3-2000 and amount disbursed is Rs. 172.11 crores. A Meeting was held with NABARD and other concerned Union Ministries/Departments in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 4-4-2000 on the various issues of RIDF Scheme. Actual disburtsement will depend on the fund utilization.
2.	Provision of banking facilities at all border trading points within one year.	Nil	35 bank branches functioning at 27 Border Trading points. 12 Border Trading points have no Banking Facilities. Department of Banking has formulated an action plan to open bank branches at all border trading points. The matter regarding opening of branches at Border Trading Points devoid of banking facilities has been taken up by the RBI with the State Bank of India, United Bank of India. Punjab National Bank and Central Bank of India. The Central Bank of India has shown inclination for opening bank branch at Sutar Kandi (Karimganj).
3.	Disbursing of atleast Rs. 50 crores per annum by North East. Development Finance Corporation (NEDFI)	Rs. 50 crores per annum from NEDFI	During the financial year ending 31-3-2000. assistance sanctioned is Rs. 35.03 crores and disbursement were Rs. 14.62 crores. The Board of Directors of NEDFI have approved the business plan for a target of Rs. 85 crores for sanction for the year 2000-2001. During the current financial year (2000-01), total disbursement upto 5-6-2000 was Rs. 3.24 crores.
4.	Setting of an Export Development Fund (EDF) with an initial cost of Rs. 5 crores and work out the modalities for operation.	Rs. 5 crores under Central Plan	The Planning Commission have requested the Ministry of Finance to release an amount of Rs. 5 crores from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources for creation of Export Development Fund. Agricultural & Processed Food Products, Export Development Authority (APEDA) is to administer the fund. They (APEDA) have agreed to keep a separate account for the fund and transact the account as per the instructions of Department of Commerce.

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1	2	3	4
5.	Development of four border townships of Moreh (Manipur), Sokhawther (Mizoram), Dawki (Meghalaya) and Suterkhandi (Assam) in two years at a cost of Rs. 20 crores.	Rs. 20 crores under Central Plan (in two years)	Action Plan has been prepared by Ministry of Commerce to develop these four border towns. A Team led by Central Warehousing Corporation and consisting of members drawn from HUDCO and India Institute of Foreign Trade visited the above places and consulted the concerned State Governments in order to finalise the development plans of these four towns. Department of Commerce has already sanctioned a number of development schemes in these four towns and other towns as given below:— (a) Trade Centre at Sutarkhandi and Surma Trunk Road to Sutarkhandi (b) Road, Street lighting and Weigh bridge at Moreh. (c) Construction of a composite building for Trade at Zokhawthar. (d) Development of infrastructure at old Raghava Bazar, Weigh bridges at Dawki, Mahurighat, Srimantpur and Manughat. (e) Road at Agartala and Akhaura.
6.	Setting up of an Empowered Committee to Process of the recommendations of Inter-Ministerial Task Force on border tade.	-Nil-	An empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary has been constituted on 28-3-2000 to examine and process the recommendations of the Task Force. The first Meeting of the Committee was held on 14-6-2000.
7.	Upgradation of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences in Shillong at a cost of Rs. 422.60 crores.	Rs. 422.60 crore. (Central Plan)	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) has prepared an action plan to sanction and implement various stages of the establishment of North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) MoHFW have set apart Rs. 130 crore (10% of its annual plan 2000-01 outlay) for North East and Sikkim. Rs. 15 crore have been earmarked for the NEIGRIHMS. Director, NEIGRIHMS, had signed an agreement with M/s Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation (India) Ltd. on 6-2-2000 for designing, engineering and project management and also made an initial payment of Rs. 5 crore to the Corporation on 14-3-2000. The MoHFW had also released Rs. 3.50 crore to the Corporation towards initial deposit.

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Sl. No.	Item	Amount/ Source of funding	Status
1	2	3	4
8.	Setting up of a Central University in Mizoram. Passing of a Bill by Lok Sabha and development of infrastructure at a cos of Rs. 25 crore for the University.	Rs. 25 crore (Central Plan)	The Bill for establishment of University of Mizoram has been passed by the Parliament and assented to by the President on 25-4-2000. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has already completed the following action :— (a) 900 acres of land has been identified for the University and the land is available. (b) Six buildings for use of University. (c) Courses to be started from the University have been identified. (d) Teachers and three senior officials who would start the University. Department of Education has initiated action plan to develop the University infrastructure.
9.	Doubling of number of Industrial Training Institutes and the trainees for imparting training in new trades in the next 3 years with an outlay of Rs. 100 crore.	Rs. 101.39 crore (Central Plan)	Critical issues which are needed to be addressed to improve the training facilities of the ITIs have been identified. Ministry of Labour has held detailed discussions on 10-11th April, 26—29th April and 12—14th June, 2000 with all the eight State Governments and has finalised the proposal.
10.	Expansion of the list of items of expenditure incurred by Police eligible for reimbursement, which would include 50% of POL costs, village guards, village defence committees and home guards.	——	Note for Cabinet has been prepared by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
11.	Modernisation of Police Force Scheme and its extension to Sikkim and additional reimbursement of Rs. 40 crore per annum for purchase of equipment for police modernisation.	Rs. 40 crore (Central Non-Plan)	The proposal to extend the Modernisation of Police Force Scheme to Sikkim has been approved in principle. The details are yet to be worked out.

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1	2	3	4
12.	Sanction of three India Reserve Battalion (IRB) for Tripura, Mizoram and Manipur (estimated expenditure for 3 IRBs for three years will be Rs. 45 crore.	Rs. 45 crore.	Three India Reserve Batallions for Tripura (on 4-4-2000), Manipur (on 2-6-2000), and Mizoram (on 24-6-2000) has been approved by Government of India.
13.	(a) Peace Bonus of Rs. 180 crore for Mizoram to tide over its financial problems. (b) Provision of an outlay of Rs. 50 crore every year from Non-lapsable Pool of Resources for five years for specific infrastructure development projects of Mizoram.	Rs. 230 crore (Central Non-Plan+Plan)	Assistance (Peace Bonus) of Rs. 182.45 crore has been sanctioned, as grant, as against Rs. 180 crore for Mizoram announced by the Prime Minister. On the request of the State Government, Planning Commission sanctioned various projects in Mizoram and released an amount of Rs. 62.15 crore during 1999-2000 from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources.
14.	Fancing of remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh Border and construction of roads with a total outlay of Rs. 1,335 crore and work to start in April, 2000.	Rs. 1,335 crore (Central Non-Plan)	On 23-5-2000, Government has approved the fencing of remaining portion of Indo-Bangladesh border and construction of roads at a cost of Rs. 1,335 crore.
15.	Streamlining of procedure for selection of projects under Central Non-lapsable Pool of Resources for North East and sanction of projects worth Rs. 500 crore and to build up infrastructure and take up economic development projects.	Rs. 500 crore (Central Plan).	In order to streamline the procedure for accruals to the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources, a budget "Head" has been opened in the Demand for Grants of most of the Ministries/Departments. This will facilitate in identifying the expenditure incurred by the respective Ministries/Departments for projects/schemes/programmes in the North East and Sikkim.
16.	Implementation of Loktak Downstream Hydro Power Project (90 MW) in Manipur at a cost of Rs. 578 crore.	Rs. 578 crore (Central Plan+FI's).	Loktak Down stream Hydro Power Project (90 MW) in Manipur costing of Rs. 578 crore has been sanctioned.
17.	Implementation of Teesta V Hydro Power	Rs. 2,198.04 crore (Cen-	In January, 2000 Teesta V stage Hydro Power Project (510 MW) in Sikkim costing of Rs.

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1	2	3	4
	Project (510 MW) in Sikkim at a cost of Rs. 2,198.04 crore.	tral Plan+ FI's)	2,198.04 crore has been sanctioned.
18.	Initiation of action to ensure that work on Subansiri Lower Side (600 MW) Power Project in Arunachal Pradesh commences by December, 2001. (Project cost is around Rs. 3,000 crore).	Rs. 3,000 crore (Central Plan).	It has been decided to transfer the project to NHPC. A Joint Committee of Brahmputra Board and NHPC have been constituted by the Ministry of Water Resources to settle the issue of transfer of data/drawings and physical assets. Meanwhile NHPC has already posted its officials to the project site and a working level office has started functioning. CEA are proposed to be associated by NHPC in the DPR stage itself so that techno economic clearance could be processed immediately after the DPR is ready.
19.	Preparation and implementation of a scheme for rural electrification of 500 tribal villages in North East at a cost of around Rs. 30 crore.	Rs. 30 crore (Central Plan).	On 3-4-2000 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal to provide concessional funding for electrification of 500 tribal villages in North East along with Tribal Villages & Harijan Bastis in other States.
20.	Additional assistance for implementation of on-going critical, sub-critical transmission system at a cost of Rs. 239.92 crore.	Rs. 239·92 crore (Central Plan).	To strengthen the transmission and sub-transmission systems in North East, Ministry of Power has identified critical transmission lines and sub-stations, in consultation with the States in North East and Central Electricity Authority. The estimated cost of these schemes is Rs. 239·92 crore. A Meeting was held in the Planning Commission on 8-5-2000 to discuss these matters. As a follow up Central Electricity Authority have requested State Govts. in the North East and Sikkim to furnish information in respect of on-going projects. Thereafter, based on the recommendations of the CEA, the scheme may be considered, on merit, for funding from the Non-lapsable Pool.
21.	Civil Aviation : (a) Provision of Aviation Turbine Fuel to small aricrafts at international prices. (b) Treatment of Aviation Turbine Fuel for small aircrafts as declared good so as to reduce the	(Central Sector).	The Cabinet approved the proposal in January, 2000. Subsequently, in a Meeting of the Committee of Secretaries held on 19-4-2000, it was decided that (i) the M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas would issue necessary notification for decontrolling ATF prices latest by 1-6-2000; (ii) M/o Civil Aviation would convene a Meeting of all Concerned State Govts. to sort out the question of notifying ATF provided to turbo-prop aircrafts as a declared good under the Central Sales Tax Act, within a period of

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1	2	3	4
	level of sales tax of 4%. (c) No IATT for routes operated in the North Eastern States.		two weeks. M/o Finance would also be associated with this Meeting. If after the Meeting, it is found that the decision of the Cabinet cannot be implemented, the matter would be brought up before the Cabinet immediately thereafter; and (iii) the Ministry would issue a notification exempting all the currently operated routes in the North East from payment of IATT, within two weeks. Notification for exemption from IATT has been issued by Department of Revenue on 2-5-2000. In pursuance of (ii) above, M/o Civil Aviation took a Meeting on 27-4-2000 with the State Govts. While representatives of Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Karnataka expressed their consent to the proposal, representatives of Govts. of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra did not agree with the proposal. The representatives of Govts. of Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura who responded positively would, however, send their formal response shortly. Representatives of other States including NCT of Delhi would send their response, within a fortnight. It is further understood that the subject was included in the agenda for the Meeting of State Finance Ministers taken by Union Finance Minister on 19th May, 2000.
22.	Sanction of 8 road/bridge projects under NEC with the total outlay of Rs. 258.24 crore.	Rs. 258.24 crore (Central/Regional Plan).	On 10-2-2000, eight road/bridge projects have been sanctioned under NEC plan with an outlay of Rs. 258.24 crore.
23.	Provision of at least Rs. 100 crore for development of 12 new National Highways/extension of existing highways covering a total length of 1,962 km.	Rs. 100 crore (Central Plan).	Department of Road Transport and Highways has prepared specific action plans for development of 12 new National Highways/extension of existing National Highways and their completion. The Estimated cost of 1962 km of road construction/improvement is Rs. 1208.50 crore. In 1999-2000, Rs. 25.78 crore had been provided and Rs. 65.25 crore have been provided in 2000-2001.This allocation is in addition to the allocation made for the other on-going Highway projects in the North East.
24.	Programme to establish computer information centre in all the 447 blocks in the 7 North Eastern States and 40	Rs. 220 crore (Central Plan).	Ministry of Information Technology has prepared a project costing Rs. 220 crore for implementation in two years. Mission approach will be adopted to implement the project. The connectivity for all 487 blocks will be

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1	2	3	4
	blocks in Sikkim and completion of the project in the next 2 years at a minimum cost of Rs. 100 crore.		based on VSAT model, A High level Meeting was held at Guwahati on 6-3-2000. Pilot project at an outlay of Rs. 14.8 crore has been approved by SFC of MIT on 22-3-2000 to implement the scheme in 30 blocks. Rs. 5 crore released in 1999-2000.
25.	Extension the excise concession under the new industrial policy to the Numaligarh Refinery in Assam.	Rs. 200 crore (Central Non-Plan).	On 9-2-2000, the Ministry of Finance, Department of Revenue has issued notification extending full excise benefit to goods cleared from Numaligarh Refinery which will give annual benefits of Rs. 200 crore to the Refinery.
26.	To reform the Brahamputra Board and to make its functioning more effective and implementation of flood management schemes.	-Nil-	All vacant posts of Brahamputra Board is expected to be filled up by December, 2000. Power of the Board is proposed to be enhanced. Board is taking action on the following :— (a) Preparation of Master Plan. (b) Investigation and preparation of DPR of identified drainage schemes. (c) Investigation and preparation of DPR for multi-purpose Dam Project. (d) Execution of drainage schemes. (e) Implementation of Pagladiya Project (Rs. 548 crore). PIB clearance for Pagladiya Dam Project has been obtained subject to certain conditions.
27.	Sanction of Technology Mission for Horticulture in the current financial year with a total outlay of Rs., 262.50 crore over the next 3 years.	Rs. 262.50 crore (Central Plan).	Ministry of Agriculture has prepared detailed action plan for sanction and implementation of the Mission project. The total cost of project is Rs. 304.06 crore out of which Rs. 262.50 crore is expected to be spent in 9th Plan and the remaining will spill over to next plan.
28.	Sanction of special programme for development of infrastructure and other facilities in the Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) Areas with a total outlay of Rs. 30 crore per annum for three years.	Rs. 30 crore (Central Plan).	A number of proposals (projects/schemes) have been received from Bodo Autonomous Council (BAC) as well as from the Government of Assam for support from the Non-lapsable Central Pool of Resources. The State Government/BAC have been, however, requested to prioritize these proposals and send their recommendations.

Additional Agenda Items relating to Ministry of Science and Technology

During the year 1999-2000, a support of Rs. 105 lakh has been extended for manpower for core secretariat and modern office-cum-communication equipment, in order to strengthen S & T council secretariats in NE States. 6 Rural Technology Parks have been approved in 2/2000 in NE States (Tripura-2, Meghalaya-3 and Assam-1). For setting up of Micro-Hydel demonstration plants, one plant each in Manipur, Nagaland and Sikkim has been sanctioned, For upgradation of the institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology (IASST) in Guwahati, out of total grant of Rs. 9.55 crore for infrastructure like buildings, laboratories, manpower, equipment, etc. so for, Rs. 3.20 crore has been released.